

DAC Digest

November 18, 2015

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

Accountability

I wanted to take a moment to remind us all of our **federal accountability** requirements, and the assessments that satisfy those requirements. The federal No Child Left Behind Act requires all states to test all students in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics in grades 3-8 and once in high school. Therefore, the following assessments within the Wisconsin Student Assessment System serve as our federal accountability measures:

- Forward Exam: grades 3-8
 - Alternate: DLM (For students with the most significant cognitive disabilities/1%)
- ACT plus Writing: grade 11
 - Alternate: DLM (For students with the most significant cognitive disabilities/1%)

In addition, students who are not fully English proficient must also be assessed annually for English Language Proficiency.

- ACCESS for ELLs: grades K-12
 - Alternate: Alternate ACCESS for ELLs (For students who also take the DLM)

For a look at all of the assessments included within our comprehensive Wisconsin Student Assessment System, please visit our [webpage](#). Stay tuned in the coming weeks for additional information from Laura Pinsonneault, the Office of Educational Accountability director, regarding the relationship of our assessments to State Report Cards.

Tea with Troy

Join us for our next Tea With Troy Office Hours this coming Monday, November 23rd at 3:00. I'm looking forward to another great conversation! Due to some GlobalMeet technical issues, October's recording is not yet available. As a result, we'll hold off on our summary discussion of September and October, and instead pose another question for our November session: "How do you move people from data analysis to instructional change?" I look forward to dialoguing with you about this topic, in addition to hearing your questions and providing you with a few brief assessment updates.

Access information for the live GlobalMeet webinar is as follows:

- From your computer, go to the [GlobalMeet login page](#).
- Choose "Enter as a guest."
- Enter your name and email address (you do NOT need to "Register").
- Click "JOIN MEETING."
- Connect audio. The preferred option is to "Call My Phone." (Other audio connection options were provided in the one-page reference guide attached to the calendar invite emailed on 11/18).

Happy Thanksgiving!

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, there will be **no** DAC Digest next Wednesday. We'll resume our normal distribution on Wednesday, December 2. From the Office of Student Assessment, we wish you all a very happy, relaxing, and safe Thanksgiving holiday!

~Troy

Troy Couillard, Director - Office of Student Assessment

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATE

FORWARD EXAM

- As DPI is in the process of implementing the Wisconsin Forward Exam, it has not yet been determined what accommodations or supports will be available to students with disabilities. Once this information is known, an I-7 model form for the Forward Exam will be developed. A student's IEP may be revised to include this form outside of an IEP team meeting if agreed upon by the parent. We are suggesting that school districts wait until the form is developed and then revise the IEP accordingly.

ACT HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS

ACT plus Writing

- **Online Accommodations Requests**
 - **NEW:** The deadline for schools to submit ACT accommodations requests in the Test Accessibility & Accommodations System (TAA) has **been extended** to **Friday, December 4**.
 - Specific information regarding the online accommodations process is available in the TAA User Guide and the video modules in the [ACT Accommodations webpage](#).
 - **NEW:** ACT's College and Career Readiness Information System (CCRIS) will be undergoing maintenance, and therefore will be unavailable this coming weekend, November 21-22.
 - Contact the ACT customer service at [1-800-553-6244 ext 1788](tel:1-800-553-6244) or email ACTStateAccoms@act.org for specific questions regarding accommodations.

ACCESS for ELLs

- **NEW:** Test Session creation will open on November 23rd. Once you have created test sessions and populated them with students, you'll be able to print test tickets.
- **NEW:** Test Materials should arrive on or before December 1st. Please inventory materials when they arrive and order any additional materials through the WIDA AMS. The window for ordering additional materials opens on December 3rd.
- **REMINDER:** Please ensure that district staff who will be administering ACCESS for ELLs this year are working on the training checklists on the WIDA.us website. You may need to create accounts for new staff.

- **REMINDER:** Software testing should be happening in your schools. Technology Coordinators may download the Testing Site Manager (TSM) and DRC Insight Secure Browser packages from the WIDA AMS.
- **REMINDER:** Please work with private schools in your district to ensure that their students are uploaded into the WIDA AMS after November 23rd.

DYNAMIC LEARNING MAPS (DLM)

- DLM recently informed states of several additional defects related to the DLM KITE Educator Portal and Individual Score Reports. Please see the *“Important Updates Regarding DLM’s KITE Educator Portal and Individual Student Score Reports”* document posted on the [“What’s New” section of the DLM webpage](#) for more detailed information.

PALS

- The PALS Score Entry Deadline for grades 4K-5K is set for **this Friday, November 20**.
- **REMINDER:** Student results from PALS screening should be provided to parents/guardians at parent-teacher conferences or via other methods. For more information see:
 - <http://www.palswisconsin.info/parent-lettersuu/>
- Please refer to the [Assessment of Reading Readiness, 2016-17 School Year](#) guidance document prepared by DPI regarding the new requirements for assessing students for reading readiness for the 2016-17 school year.

DAC DIGEST DIGESTIBLES (Dates/tasks that are newly added this week are in **bold**)

Important Dates to Remember		
November	2-25: ISES Data Correction Window	General
	20: Grades 4K and 5K PALS score entry deadline	PALS
	20: Deadline to submit requests for ACT-approved accommodations	ACT
	21-22: ACT’s College and Career Readiness Information System (CCRIS) unavailable due to scheduled maintenance	ACT
	23: ACCESS for ELLs Test Setup opens	ACCESS
	23: Tea w/Troy Optional Office Hours (3:00-4:00)	General
	24: Upload private school student rosters to WIDA AMS	ACCESS
December	1: Districts receive ACCESS test materials, test labels	ACCESS
	2: Test Administration Q&A Training Session for ACT and ACT WorkKeys	ACT
	3: Window opens to order additional ACCESS materials	ACCESS
	4: Deadline to submit requests for ACT-approved accommodations - NEW DUE DATE	ACT
	7: ACCESS for ELLs Testing Window opens	ACCESS
	8-9: Forward Exam Item Review Meeting	Forward

Important Tasks to Remember		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Add district/school staff who will be administering the ACCESS for ELLs this year to the WIDA AMS; ensure staff have WIDA.us training account, and are working on the training checklists	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tech Coordinators should be downloading the TSM and DRC Insight secure browser	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work with private schools to upload student rosters into WIDA AMS	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inventory ACCESS test materials when they arrive, order additional materials December 3rd	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/>	TCs request Trusted Agent Access	ACT
<input type="checkbox"/>	TCS request Test Accommodations Coordinator (TAC) Access for themselves or other staff	ACT
<input type="checkbox"/>	TACs submit Accommodations requests online by Friday, December 4	ACT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review ACT Aspire Portal users to ensure information is accurate and up-to-date	Aspire
<input type="checkbox"/>	Activate DLM user accounts in Educator Portal at least one week prior to needing access to required Test Administration training on Moodle	DLM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tech coordinators can access and download KITE Client; all testing devices must be updated for spring 2016	DLM
<input type="checkbox"/>	DLM ISRs should be downloaded, reviewed, and distributed to parents/guardians asap	DLM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review DLM Science Test information	DLM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review Important Updates Regarding DLM's KITE Educator Portal and Individual Student Score Reports	DLM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Subscribe to DLM Test Updates for notifications regarding Educator Portal, required test administration training, availability of test resources and other important information	DLM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check out DRC's online test demo	Forward
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide student results from PALS to parents/guardians (see above)	PALS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Upload student data into the PALS Online Score Entry and Reporting System (<i>Information on the steps required to perform this upload can be found HERE</i>)	PALS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review 2016-2017 Reading Readiness guidance from DPI	PALS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check out the new Strategic Assessment webpage, video, and charts	General
<input type="checkbox"/>	Establish time within weekly administrative schedule to review weekly DAC Digest, act upon items as appropriate, and communicate to relevant staff	General